



HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING (and CONSTRUCTION) NOTES

Volume III Number 7

14 April 1998

Notes from Steve Stockton, Chief, Engineering (and Construction) Division

As we reach the mid-point of the Fiscal Year, it is time to pause and take a look at where we have been and where we are going.

Here in HQ Civil Works Engineering Division, MG Fuhrman recently approved the reorganization of the Civil Works Directorate. Most of these changes are designed to better position ourselves for the future and will be transparent to the field. One change that will likely be noticed however, is the combination of Engineering and Construction within Civil Works. This change will move three personnel from Operations, Construction and Readiness to the Engineering Division. We

now mirror the E&C Organization in Military Programs. I would like to extend a warm welcome to Ken Buck, Alan Hurlocker and Brad James. We still need to sort out some of the administrative issues and will keep you apprised in future issues.

From the reports that I received, our FY98 work is proceeding on schedule and all MSC's are on target to make their private sector contracting goals. At this time I have a study team reviewing how we measure our private sector contracting performance to allow credit for all of the work that is being contracted. I have sent a data call memorandum to each MSC and District to obtain information for the study team's use.

Participation from each District is important in the development of our procedures for the future.

The FY 99 Congressional Appropriations hearings have taken place and there are indications that Congress might adjust the size of our appropriations, particularly in Construction

This Month's Contents

- Notes from Steve Stockton
- Civil Works Reorganization
- Value Engineering (VE), Central Indianapolis Waterfront Development
- Quality Assurance of Laboratory Testing Procedures
- Guidelines for the Career Development of Geotechnical Engineers
- ASA (CW) Nominee
- Leadership Development Program
- Year 2000 Problems
- Professional Development Program
- Defense Leadership and Management Program (DLAMP)
- Deputy for Programs and Project Management (DPM) Positions
- SPECSINTACT Correction
- Handbook for Concrete and Cement
- National Dam Safety Review Board
- ISO 9000 Internet Link

HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING (and CONSTRUCTION) NOTES - Vol. III No. 7 14 April 1998 (continued)

General. However, we must start our planning for FY99 with the President's budget.

The new Project Management regulation has been out about a month. We are revising our engineering and design regulation to be in line for the project management policy. A draft of the revised ER 1110-2-1150 is now in the field for review. I ask that you take time to give the draft regulation a good review.

I have just attended the first meeting of the National Dam Safety Review Board. This board provides the Federal agencies and the States a forum to work together to improve dam safety across the country. Also, two of our MSC's are corresponding with government agencies in Mexico and Canada to help those countries establish dam safety programs. If you receive requests for information of dam safety from any source you should feel free to answer the request to the same extent that you answer other requests.

I am looking forward to the second half of the fiscal year being as challenging and productive as the first half has been. [Stockton, (202) 761-0215 or (202) 761-0115 while in Planning]

CURRENT NEWS FROM CWE

Civil Works Reorganization

Reorganization in the Directorate of Civil Works has been approved. The Construction Branch of Operations, Construction, and Readiness Division has been reassigned to Engineering Division. The exact names of the two Divisions have not been formally established. At this time, it is planned that the name for our expanded Division will be Engineering and Construction Division. This name coincides with the name of the same division in the Directorate of Military Programs and with the name used by a number of combined engineering and construction organizations in the field.

The reassignment of Construction Branch to Engineering adds three new people to the Division. The three individuals are listed below with a short biography.

Ken Buck – Ken has been chief of the Construction Branch since coming to HQUSACE in the summer of 1996 from the Pine Bluff Resident Office. He has been a Resident Engineer and contract manager for both Civil Works and Military construction both CONUS and OCUNUS, serving the Corps in Little Rock, Mobile, Kansas City, Japan, New York and Savannah Districts. He is a member of the Acquisition Workforce and active in contract management and administrative issues.

HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING (and CONSTRUCTION) NOTES - Vol. III No. 7 14 April 1998 (continued)

Allen Hurlocker – Allen began his career with the Corps in 1970 as a member of the Design Branch in the Wilmington District. In 1976 he moved to the Savannah District to become the embankment engineer at the Richard B. Russell Project. In 1979 he moved to the South Atlantic Division office where he served in the Quality Assurance Section of the Construction Branch. In 1987 Allen moved to HQUSACE as a member of the Construction Policy Branch of the Engineer and Construction Directorate. In 1992 he moved to his present position in the Civil Works Construction Branch.

Brad James – Brad has worked in the Civil Works Construction Branch in HQ since 1995. Prior to that he was a Resident Engineer on both Civil Works and Military Construction projects in Baltimore District. Brad has also worked in numerous field offices, which handled both Civil Works and Military construction projects in New York, Savannah and Baltimore Districts during his career. He has also supervised the design of military projects and is a member of the Army Acquisition Corps.

Value Engineering (VE), Central Indianapolis Waterfront Development

Congratulations to the Louisville District, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division for their cost-effective partnering with the local sponsor. A VE study was performed in FY 97, which included the project sponsor on the team, and offered some proposals which required significant technical review prior to acceptance. Proposals are being implemented on this project now, and should result in over \$13 million in savings and cost avoidance on the \$22 million reach for which the study was performed. The savings will increase for the total project as the accepted concepts are used for design on other reaches. The primary proposal in this study provided for less concrete, and more grassy area. The proposal saved money and was much more environmentally acceptable to local interests. Further hydraulics and soils analyses confirmed technical soundness, allowing the District to demonstrate to the sponsor that the Corps is solidly one of the most cooperative, cost-effective entities in Government. [Holt, (202) 761-8738]

Quality Assurance of Laboratory Testing Procedures

A revision of ER 1110-1-261, "Quality Assurance of Laboratory Testing Procedures" has been recently published. This Engineering Regulation prescribes responsibilities and procedures for materials and water quality testing by and for the districts. It is necessary to ensure that the laboratories, whether it is in-house or contracted, are qualified and capable to perform the tests for the project. The complete copy of the regulation is attached as Appendix A. [Lee, (202) 761-0412]

Guidelines for the Career Development of Geotechnical Engineers

HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING (and CONSTRUCTION) NOTES - Vol. III No. 7 14 April 1998 (continued)

The new Engineer Pamphlet (EP) 690-2-3, entitled "Guidelines for the Career Development of Geotechnical Engineers" and dated 15 February 1998, is being printed for distribution. The purpose of the EP is to provide guidelines for development of technical and professional skills for individual career plans. The EP suggests and describes the required experience, education, training, and skill development opportunities that Corps geotechnical members should have at various stages on their career paths. [Walz, (202) 761-8681]

ASA (CW) Nominee

President Clinton has nominated Dr. Joseph W. Westphal as Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works). Dr. Joseph W. Westphal, of Herndon, Virginia, is currently the Senior Policy Advisor to the Assistant Administrator for Water at the Environmental Protection Agency. From 1995 to 1997, he was Director of the Congressional Sunbelt Caucus in the Senate, and from 1988 to 1995, he was Executive Director of the House Sunbelt Caucus. From 1987 to 1988, he was a visiting Scholar at the Institute for Water Resources, and from 1975 to 1987, he was a Professor and Department Head in the Political Science Department at Oklahoma State University. He has also been an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University since 1996. Dr. Westphal received his BA from Adelphi University, his MA from Oklahoma State University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia, all in Political Science.

Leadership Development Program (LDP)

The Chief has approved a new program to replace the Executive Development Program (EDP). The new program will focus on the GS 12/13 level instead of the GS 14/15 level is based on recommendations developed by a Task Force headed by the CP-18 functional chiefs' representative, Mr. William A. Brown. The new program will be the Leadership Development Program (LDP), be open to all GS-12s and 13s in CP-18, consists of classroom instruction, mentoring and a six-month developmental assignment. Enrollees have three years to complete the program and developmental assignments will be identified and arranged by the LDP Board. The program will concentrate on producing leaders for the 21st century. Individuals currently enrolled in EDP 3 will have eighteen months to complete that program. Open enrollment for LDP is planned for the first quarter of FY99. [Brown, (202) 761-4536]

CWE INFORMATION

Year 2000 Problems

The Year 2000 (Y2K) computer problem came about due to the use of two digits in early programs to designate the year; for example 85 = 1985 and 01 = 1901. Therefore, those old programs will recognize 00 as the year 1900. New programs use a four-digit year to avoid this

HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING (and CONSTRUCTION) NOTES - Vol. III No. 7 14 April 1998 (continued)

problem. The problem is not just with program code but also with computer and other operating systems that contain computer chips.

The Year 2000 (Y2K) computer problem has two parts. The first part is finding where all our problems are located. The second part is ensuring all new work is Y2K compatible.

Recently, the Philadelphia District reported that their dredge is not Y2K compliant. A major piece of onboard instrumentation failed the Y2K rollover test. The district estimates it will cost \$80,000 to correct the problem. Are there other Civil Works systems in the districts that need testing?

A question and simple test can be added to the periodic inspection of our projects. The question is "Have all systems where dates can be set been tested?" The simple Y2K rollover test is to set the date on the system at "31 December 1999" and check what occurs when the date changes to "1 January 2000". Using a combination of the date and time, this test can be accomplished within one work shift. Many systems will shutdown if there is a Y2K problem. So the test should be run when an unscheduled shutdown can be tolerated.

Some of the systems that should be tested are control systems for lock and dams, water control, power generation and others. Another critical area could be the lift pumps in levee systems. One Washington area company found that all the elevators in their building stopped working and were locked out when the test was run.

To guard against the installation of any additional equipment that is not Y2K compatible, the Engineering and Construction staffs need to review all plans and specifications. The Directorate of Military Programs put out Engineer Improvement Recommendation System (EIRS) Bulletin 97-03, on 31 March 1997 on this subject. Enclosure 1 to that Bulletin, "Engineering and Design - Year 2000 Compliant Equipment" addressed Y2K compliance in Corps constructed facilities. The language provided, if recognized, included and implemented by Contracting Offices, and tested by Project Managers, should be quite adequate to insure that Corps built facilities are Y2K compliant. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

DID YOU KNOW

Professional Development Program

Engineering (and Construction) Division has funds for a number of Professional Development Program assignments in branches. There is a special need at this time for an electrical engineer (GS-12 and above) to participate in a three month assignment in Electrical and Mechanical Branch. Interested individuals should contact Dan Casapulla by E-mail or phone (202) 761-4535

HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING (and CONSTRUCTION) NOTES - Vol. III No. 7 14 April 1998 (continued)

for details. There is also a need for an engineer to work in the Dam Safety Program in General Engineering Branch. Interested individuals should contact Charles Pearre by E-mail or phone (202) 761-4531 for more information. These Professional Development assignments are governed by EC 350-2-150 with HQUSACE paying travel and per diem costs. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

Defense Leadership and Management Program (DLAMP)

The DCG hosted a video-teleconference on 13 April 1998 on the Defense Leadership and Management Program DLAMP). Ms. Diane Lilienthal from ASA (M&RA) provided a briefing on the program. The VTC was held to ensure that the entire target audiences (commanders, potential applicants, supervisors, managers, HR specialists, and career program officials) were informed of the opportunities and benefits of DLAMP. All MSC's and Laboratories, plus a number of other sites were connected. HQDA has announced the next opportunity for members to apply for DLAMP with a suspense date of 20 April 1998. The March issue of Engineer Update, page 11, contains an article on DLAMP. Additional information is also available on the Army Civilian Personnel Online at <http://cpol.army.mil>, click on PERMISS and search on "DLAMP". [Brown, (202) 761-0347]

Deputy for Programs and Project Management (DPM) Positions

The CG has approved the new model job description, definition of specialized experience, and the knowledge, skills and abilities to be used in the recruitment process for DPM positions. This information was faxed today to activities with recruitment actions pending and is being sent to all commanders. This action is a follow-on action to the Chief's memorandum of 6 February 1998, on the subject "Recruitment for Program Manager", which announced that DPM positions would no longer be included in CP-18. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

SPECSINTACT Correction

The Internet address in the March notes for SPECSINTACT contacted an error. The correct address is <http://kscdl2.ksc.nasa.gov/specsintact/> . The character proceeding the number "2" in the address is the letter "l"; not the number "1". [Baldi, (202) 761-8894]

Handbook for Concrete and Cement

The Handbook for Concrete and Cement is a compilation of specifications and standardized methods of testing frequently used by the laboratory and field by the Corps of Engineers personnel. This Handbook is updated quarterly in hardcopy and is widely used in and out of the Corps of Engineers.

HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING (and CONSTRUCTION) NOTES - Vol. III No. 7 14 April 1998 (continued)

Due to the funding restraint and advancement of information technology, this handbook will no longer published in hardcopy. Instead, it will be available in Construction Criteria Base (CCB). Only the testing procedures developed by the Corps of Engineers will be in full text. The reprints of ASTM standards, etc, will not be included. However, a cross-index will be included for easy reference.

The Concrete Technology Support Center in CEWES is also working on a Web Page. The Handbook can also be accessed from this Web Page when it is finished. [Lee, (202) 761-0412]

YOU ASKED

No new questions were received for this issue.

Questions are needed by the 15th of the month for the next issue of HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING NOTES. Questions can be sent by FAX to (202) 761-4002 or by e-mail to Charles Pearre. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

DAM SAFETY PROGRAM

National Dam Safety Review Board

The Honorable James Lee Witt, Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has selected Steven L. Stockton, Chief, Engineering Division, Directorate of Civil Works, as the first Department of Defense representative on the new National Dam Safety Review Board. Mr. Stockton was nominated for the position by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works on behalf of the Secretary of Defense. The National Dam Safety Review Board (NDSRB) was established by act of Congress as part of Section 215 of the Water Resources Development Act, 1996. The board consists of 11 members including five representatives from Federal agencies, five representatives from State dam safety agencies, and one representative from the United States Committee on Large Dams (USCOLD). The purpose of the board is to assist the Director of FEMA in the implementation of the National Dam Safety Program in accordance with the National Dam Safety Act. [Pearre, (202) 761-4531]

FIELD INFO TO SHARE

ISO 900 Internet Link

Michael Roll of the Portland District furnished the following information:

HQ CIVIL WORKS ENGINEERING (and CONSTRUCTION) NOTES - Vol. III No. 7
14 April 1998 (continued)

The Portland District PPM is now linked the District's web page to our ISO 9000 entry. Give it a try, it worked when I did it. The address is <http://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/info.htm>. We also changed the text to indicate we have achieved certification.

Districts are encouraged to submit information for this section. Also, tell us your ideas on how HQ CWE can do it better and what you would like to know about. Your information is needed by the 15th of the month for the next issue. [Wallace, (202) 761-8890]

REMINDER

These HQ Civil Works Engineering Notes are now available on the Internet approximately three days after publication. You can the access the Notes directly at <http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwe/notes/>.